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Approved For Release 2004/08/23 : CIA-RDP57-00384R000700040013-9
Security Information

430

OGC Has Reviewed

16 July 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD.

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Subject: [REDACTED]

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1. At the request of the office of Senator Ferguson, I today interviewed [REDACTED] of Michigan State College, who had been engaged to teach certain Summer courses at CIA subject to clearance. Clearance was not forthcoming, and Mr. [REDACTED] was notified that the program in which he was scheduled to teach had been cancelled.

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2. [REDACTED] stated that, having had considerable wartime experience in intelligence and assignment to the G-2 section of SCAP, he realized from the nature of our position that he was faced in all probability with a security turn-down. His suspicions were furthered by an attempt, subsequent to his turn-down here, to get Summer consultant work from ORO at Ft. McNair. ORO stated that they would be delighted to have him, but shortly thereafter informed him that his clearance had been "deactivated", and that they could not employ him until it was reactivated.

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3. [REDACTED] was also suspicious of what he calls the present witchhunting climate of Washington. The fact that there might have been a security turn-down came as a surprise to him because of a conversation he had had with [REDACTED] of CIA when they were discussing [REDACTED] employment. Some other names, [REDACTED] said, were brought up, and [REDACTED] was alleged to have stated that there might be some question as to clearing that particular group; but [REDACTED] allegedly said he was able to discuss the agenda of the Summer course with [REDACTED] because "preliminary clearances had already been granted" on [REDACTED]

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4. Although [REDACTED] tends to believe that security entered into his turn-down, I at no time gave him a flat affirmative statement to that effect. He stated that he was interested to know what reparations CIA might make to him because of his financial loss, and further stated that Mr. Smith, of the Republican Policy Committee, had suggested a possible suit for breach of contract. I informed him that CIA was considering what steps could appropriately be taken in this matter. He stated that the head of the Government

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Research Bureau at Michigan State, as well as the College itself,
stood behind him, particularly as they were attempting to negotiate
research contracts with various Government agencies. [redacted]

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25X1A 25X1A [redacted] They were, therefore, anxious to get to the bottom of the
[redacted] incident, and proposed possibly to carry the matter further
with Senator Ferguson. In reply, I pointed out to him that if
security were involved, any information which we had was locked
up in our files and was never disclosed to third persons; that CIA
could be pushed by unwarranted attack to a point that a demand
from Congressional sources would make it necessary to brief a
member of the Congress on the security implications of a particular
case in order to defend CIA from attack by the subject. I pointed
out that we were always reluctant to be placed in such a position,
as the revelation of any such information redounded to the detri-
ment of the applicant. This was particularly true, I stated, because
of the care with which CIA considered applicants and the very high
standards of suitability which we maintain.

25X1A 5. While [redacted] initial reaction was to seek an
immediate showdown through Senator Ferguson or others as to
the cause of his turn-down, the fact that it might include security
implications has, I believe, led him to await any correspondence
from CIA; and also to find out whether his ORO clearance will be
reactivated; and whether he will get certain clearances from the
Department of State.

Walter L. Pforzheimer
Legislative Counsel

WLPforzheimer/blc
1 - Acting AD/Personnel
1 - Security
2 - [redacted]

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